Music development plan Summary:
Leesland CofE Federation

Overview

Detail	Information
Academic year that this summary covers	2026-2027
Date this summary was published	September 2026
Date this summary will be reviewed	September 2027
Name of school music lead	Gemma Cousins
Name of local music hub	Hampshire Music Education Hub
Name of other music education organisations partnered with	Rocksteady Music School

This is a summary of how Leesland (C of E) Federation of Schools delivers music education to all our pupils across the three features of high-quality music education as identified by the DofE in the National Plan for Music Education (June 2022). It is a summary of our provision of Curriculum music, co-curricular provision and musical experience as well as what changes we are planning in future years. This information is to help pupils and parents or carers understand what our school offers and who we work with to support our pupils' music education.

Part A: Curriculum Music

In this section we will outline what is taught in lesson time and how much time is spent teaching music.

At Leesland (C of E) Federation of Schools, Music aims to ensure that all pupils should engage in a high-quality music education enabling them to develop a life-long love of music. In doing so, we aim to increase children's self-confidence, creativity and a sense of achievement through participation in a wealth of music-making activities including singing, performing, composing and listening. Singing and performing together in school assemblies and performances also helps to promote the importance of working collaboratively, towards a common goal and encourages an important sense of belonging and community.

In the Infant School, we follow the web-based Charanga program, which sets out the aims and programmes of study for music, ensuring that our curriculum coverage is consistent across classes and between Year R and KS1. This also ensures that disciplinary knowledge is built upon each year, enabling all teachers to support pupils in developing their own knowledge and understanding about music, resulting in them being able to make appropriate links to learning within the community and throughout their lives. Regular opportunities are available for all children to perform to an audience, for example through class assemblies, Christmas performances, end of term celebrations. Children in Reception classes have access to a range of

percussion instruments, which they can self-select, encouraging them to explore and create sounds during free flow activities.

In the Junior School every child receives 30-45 minutes of in class music teaching per week or equivalent if blocked. In years 3, 5 and 6 this is delivered by class teachers while year 4 receive specialist music teaching through the Hampshire Music Service Listen to Me Programme. Every child has an opportunity to play a variety of tuned and untuned instruments. We have class sets of glockenspiels, recorders, ukuleles, and a range of percussion instruments which students will use throughout their time with us. Each music unit has a specific instrument focus and uses singing to explore musical ideas.

Our music curriculum follows the Hampshire Music Service's Pathway to Musical independence. Each term, students in years 3,4 and 5 use a Hampshire Music Service (HMS) unit to explore a key music skill and up to three musical dimensions. Units have been carefully selected to ensure that students have a solid understanding of the foundational elements or dimensions of music as well as key music skills. The 7 key elements covered in our curriculum map are: pitch, duration, dynamics, tempo, timbre, texture, structure. The musical skills taught are: singing, playing, rehearsing and performing, notating, listening and responding, and describing and discussing. Each unit typically includes: listening and analysing music, music theory, composition, practical application of skills on a variety of instruments, a performance and evaluation. Students will work both individually and in groups.

The Listen to Me Programme in year 4 ensures that all children have an opportunity to learn an instrument from a skilled professional. This year the instruments to be taught are ukulele, brass and samba drumming. After learning each instrument for a term, students perform a concert for their family, friends and peers.

All students are given further opportunities to gain confidence and skills in singing through daily collective worship and special events in the school's church calendar. Songs are included in four of the five collective worships delivered each week. Whole-school collective singing is coordinated and taught by the music lead. During Christmas and Easter, children participate in special church services in which there are typically 3 or 4 songs sung as a whole school. These songs can include parts and timed actions.

Part B: Co-Curricular Music

At Leesland (C of E) Federation of Schools we offer opportunities to sing and play music outside of lesson time.

This year we have continued our partnership with Rock Steady Music School to facilitate peripatetic music teaching. They currently offer music tuition in the following instruments: vocals, bass guitar, electric guitar, keyboards and drums. Students who sign-up to this service are placed in their own rock band and learn to play songs

together. All instruments are provided for each session by Rock Steady. Bands have weekly 30-minute rehearsals with a Rock Steady music specialist in our dedicated music room. Each term, all rock bands perform for both their families and peers from the wider school. We currently support one pupil premium child with a free place.

We have an active choir which all students in year 5 and 6 are able to join free of charge. This choir regularly perform in the community. In the past, it has performed during special school church services, visited and performed in hospitals and rest homes as well as taken part in local festivals. The choir rehearses once a week in our music room and is led by a skilled teacher.

Year 6 students are also given the opportunity to be part of a production in the summer term. While all students are involved in the production in some way (backstage, dancer, technical support or operator, actor, singing chorus), those who take on major roles will often have songs and solos to prepare. Extra rehearsals are often put on for these students during lunchtimes. The production is performed three times to an audience of 150 in a professional theatre.

Part C: Musical Experiences

Several musical experiences are planned for children throughout the school year. While some experiences involve the whole school or specific year groups, others are provided for those who sign-up for them.

All children who receive tuition from Rock Steady Music will perform as part of a concert at the end of every term. While this is hugely beneficial for the performers, by the end of the school year every child in the school will also have listened to the live music that they provide. All year 4 students will also get an opportunity to perform for family and friends every term through the Listen to Me programme. For many students, the Year 6 production is the climax of the music calendar. All year 6 students play a part in this show and while it is performed twice to a paying audience, year 5 students are given their own free performance. All performances take place in a professional theatre with lighting, sound and microphones.

At Leesland (C of E) Federation of Schools, every child has an opportunity to see a high-quality musical performance. In January, we invite a professional pantomime company to come to the infant school. All children from year 3 to 5 are taken over to the infant school to watch a performance. Year 6 students watch a live professional Shakespeare production at the start of the autumn term which links to their English topic. They also go to the local Secondary school at least once a year to watch their productions. In the past they have seen Grease at Brune Park, Rock of Ages and Oliver at Bay House. Often these productions involve choral singing and solos and give students a taste of what they can get involved with in year 7. We have recently established links with Kings Academy (our feeder schools) and last year had the

opportunity to invite musicians over to lead our year 6s in a singing workshop with full instrumental accompaniment.

Recently, we have also been able to engage in a number of local projects run by the Hampshire Music Service. In 2023 all our year 5 students were involved in the Solent Sea Shanty Project which saw them take part in a performance in the Portsmouth Historic Dockyard. This experience allowed our students to watch the Royal Marines Band and sing in a large chorus with live instruments. In 2024/25 thirty of our year 6 students received professional tuition to use digital technologies to remix sea shanties; their compositions were then played as part of celebration at Fort Brockhurst in which our year 3 students also sung.

In the future

While we believe that our music curriculum is sound, there is always room for improvement. We seek to improve our provision for co-curricular music.

It would be fantastic to start up further musical clubs at Leesland (C of E) Federation of Schools. A musical ensemble group is overdue, whether it be with recorders, xylophone or ukulele. We are also aware that years 3 and 4 should be given an opportunity to sing in a choir just like their older peers.

As always, we will be seeking affordable local musical experiences for our children. For the last few years we have been involved in regional musical experiences run by HMS and would love to sign up for any that eventuate later in the year.

Further Information

As of 2023 Leesland Junior School has been accredited as a Music Mark school. This allows staff to receive professional development and stay up to date with innovation in the music curriculum.